

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14-18 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of Claim 4, which has been cancelled. Support for the amendment can be found in original Claims 1 and 4 and at page 3, lines 1-5 of the specification. Claim 5 has been amended to depend from Claim 1. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 4, 5, and 15.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 1-3, and 7-12, 14, and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,399,251 to Lee.

Claims 1-3 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,626,566 to Miller et al.


The Examiner indicates on page 2 of the Office Action that Claims 4, 5, and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of cancelled Claim 4. As such it is equivalent to Claim 4 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants submit that Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-18, as amended, overcome the rejections and are now in form for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-18 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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